

Vashon-Maury Island Community Service Area

WORK PLAN: 2012 – 2013

I. Introduction

Why a work plan?

With passage of Ordinance 17139, the King County Council directed the Executive to put into place a new model for public engagement in the unincorporated area. The new model would include the following components:

- Development of new boundaries for Community Service Areas (CSAs) in the unincorporated area
- An inter-branch work group of county staff tasked with developing a work plan for each CSA
- A “single point-of-contact” for each CSA through which residents could access information and be connected to resources
- An annual public meeting that would include the CSA’s respective council member
- A grant program to fund community-developed projects in CSAs
- A website with resources and information

During the process of developing the CSA boundaries – which included extensive community outreach and input – the Executive’s Office decided to begin testing the work plan development process for a CSA with pre-existing boundaries – Vashon-Maury Island.

The process for developing the Vashon-Maury Island CSA work plan and the interaction with the community around the work plan is intended to serve as a trial – from which problems would be identified and revisions would be made – and then, ultimately, as a model for how the process would work in other CSAs.

Purpose of the work plan

The following work plan is intended to communicate to residents and King County staff the government’s planning and anticipated projects for the CSA in 2012 – 2013. For county staff it will serve as a mechanism to coordinate and receive feedback on projected projects and service changes. For residents, it will serve as a jumping-off point for conversations about community priorities and needs.

Work plan process

Early in 2012 King County staff knowledgeable about service delivery to the Vashon-Maury Island CSA met as a team to develop the following work plan. Participants discussed county service priorities for the community, key change drivers, upcoming projects and service changes, and communication points between CSA residents and the county.

II. Planning Assumptions

Planning assumptions are intended to provide boundaries for work plan content and discussion. They are the current environmental factors or trends over which we have little control and on which there is general agreement. They might include demographic factors that could dramatically affect business as well as basic assertions about the state-of-the-county today. The assumptions are important to keep in mind as we envision the future of service to the Vashon-Maury Island CSA.

- King County services to the Vashon-Maury Island CSA are highly varied in terms of their funding sources and funding structure. Provision of some services may continue to be constrained by the economic downturn and limited revenue. Further, services dependent on state funding may also be constrained and on-going coordination with Washington state will be important for service delivery.
- The unincorporated population will continue to decline, but the Vashon-Maury Island Community Service Area population is expected to maintain and grow slowly.
- Technology will continue to open new mechanisms for engagement and service delivery.
- Vashon-Maury Island residents will continue to expect responsive, high-quality services.
- There will be an increasing number of residents in the Vashon-Maury Island CSA for whom English is a second language.

III. County Priorities for Vashon-Maury Island CSA for 2012 – 2013

As the regional and local service provider to the Vashon-Maury Island CSA, the following are King County's key priorities for the area for 2012-2013. Services and anticipated 2012-2013 projects are intended to reflect and follow-through on these priorities.

1. Develop and execute a new, inclusive and comprehensive engagement model to more effectively work with and learn about the needs of residents in the Vashon-Maury Island CSA.
2. Enhance and preserve Vashon-Maury Island's natural resources, including open space and water resources, and provide residents more opportunities to protect the environment through recycling.
3. Work with residents to protect the safety and quality of life in rural areas.
4. Maintain a diverse set of coordinated transportation options on Vashon-Maury Island, paying particular attention to linkages between transportation modes.

5. Improve the accessibility of and communication about King County services to the Vashon-Maury Island CSA.

IV. Anticipated Projects or Service Changes

The following is a list highlighting some of the key projects or service changes anticipated by the county for 2012-2013. The projects are organized in accordance with the goals areas of the King County Strategic Plan. A full list of projects and service changes, including descriptions and timing, is included in Appendix A.

Economic Growth and Built Environment: Encourage a growing and diverse King County economy and vibrant, thriving and sustainable communities.

- **Increased water taxi capacity.** At present the Vashon Island water taxi is leaving overloads behind at least 2 - 3 times per week with its current capacity of 150 passengers. King County's marine division is working to increase the capacity for its water taxis to 172 passengers.
- **New vessel construction.** Funding for two new water taxi vessels has been secured and planning is underway. The vessels – anticipated to come online in early 2014 – will be larger (capacity of 200 – 250) and more reliable.
- **Restructuring of Metro's On-Island Transit Service.** In-line with its Strategic Plan for Public Transportation Policy, King County Metro is considering more efficient, cost-effective options for providing transit service to Vashon Island. Planning and outreach for this work would begin in fall of 2012. Implementation of service changes would take place in fall of 2013.
- **Economic development.** Working with the Chamber and other economic development organizations on the island, the King County Rural Economic Strategies program will explore options to enhance economic development for the Town of Vashon, Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers, home-based businesses, and agricultural and forestry enterprises.
- **Changes to the Comprehensive Plan.** No changes to the land use map or area zoning are proposed in the 2012 update of the King County Comprehensive Plan (KCCP). An update of the Vashon Town Plan is underway. Recommendations by Vashon residents for the Town Plan update were not received in time to be included in the Executive Recommended 2012 update of the KCCP. At such time as the community's recommendations are received, they will be reviewed for inclusion in a King County Comprehensive Plan update, either in 2012 or 2013.

- **Four Tier Approach to Roads Services.** Due to shrinking roads revenues, which are mostly supported by property taxes, the Roads Services Division is in the process of implementing a new tiered approach to service to ensure King County makes the most of its limited roads dollars. Tier 1 roads will receive the most service and will proffer consistently reliable access. These are heavily traveled roads that connect large communities, major services and critical infrastructure. On the opposite end of the spectrum, Tier 5 roads – local residential roads that have alternative routes available for travel – will receive very limited maintenance and virtually no snow and storm response.

Environmental Sustainability: Safeguard and enhance King County's natural resources and environment.

- **Upgrade to residential recycling services.** In order to facilitate increased recycling by residents, King County is planning to implement the following changes in early 2013:
 - Collection of materials not currently accepted by Vashon's hauler, including all rigid plastics and scrap metal
 - A collection fee structure that includes recycling service as part of the basic garbage collection fee;
 - Provision of wheeled carts for recyclables (glass will continue to be collected separately)
- **Enhanced recycling at transfer station.** During 2012 King County will be running a pilot program to test the feasibility of expanding the materials currently collected by the transfer and recycling station. Targeted materials include yard waste, clean wood and scrap metal.
- **Expansion for Island Center Park and Ride.** This 2012 project will add a 27 space permeable concrete paved parking area and storm water system including two rain gardens, to an existing 55 space lot that lacks water treatment meeting today's standards.
- **Salmon recovery and habitat restoration.** As part of its salmon recovery work, in 2013 the Water and Land Resources division will be working to enhance the shoreline habitat at Dockton Natural Area by removing bulkhead, excavating fill and enhancing habitat features.
- **Park enhancements.** Through two grant programs, King County is planning the following projects in 2012-2013: new picnic shelters at Island Center Forest and Maury Island Marine Park; Vashon Forest Stewards youth crew; new athletic fields and skate park for Vashon Parks District.
- **Open space acquisitions.** Working closely with the Vashon Land Trust, King County Parks is planning the following acquisitions in 2012-2013: five acres at Island Center Forest, forty

acres as part of the Dockton Forest lease conversion, up to sixty acres to develop a trail connection between Maury Island Marine Park and Dockton Park, and conservation easements in the Judd Creek watershed.

Justice and Safety: Support safe communities and accessible justice systems for all.

- **Potential changes to the King County Sheriff's Office service model.** In its effort to provide police services as effectively and efficiently as possible, the King County Sheriff's Office has implemented a new zone staffing model. This approach will reduce overtime burdens and facilitate easier movement of staff where they are most needed. Additionally, the KCSO is in talks regarding a new residential deputy program. If approved, the program would allow for more efficient staffing of Vashon-Maury Island.

Health and Human Potential: Provide equitable opportunities for all individuals to realize their full potential.

- **Marine Recovery Area System Inspections.** Public Health – Seattle & King County will continue to work with property owners in the Marine Recovery Area to obtain and document inspection of their septic systems and repairs if necessary by July 1, 2012.

Public Engagement: Provide robust public engagement that informs, involves and empowers people and communities.

- **Unincorporated Area Public Engagement Program.** With the development of Community Service Areas (CSAs) King County is proposing new ways to engage with unincorporated area residents. The CSA program has six key components: the development – in collaboration with the community – of community service area boundaries, interdepartmental teams to provide seamless and coordinated service delivery, work plans for each area, annual meetings, an unincorporated area grant program to support community-based projects and activities, and a website with resources and information.
- **Storefront Studio.** In collaboration with the University of Washington, King County is working with the Town of Vashon to develop a theme and look for the town. The project includes a low-interest loan program for buildings desiring to implement recommendations. The intent of the project is to promote tourism and economic development.

- **Forest stewardship class.** This 10-session course starting on April 25, 2012 will enable forest landowners to prepare their own forest stewardship plan with guidance and “coaching” from natural resource professionals.

King County provides a multitude of on-going services that are not anticipating changes in 2012-2013. A list of those regular services can be found in APPENDIX A.

V. Long-term Issues and Strategies

To-be-determined in next iteration of work plan.

VI. Next Steps

This draft plan is a jumping-off point for conversation. The next step will be to work with residents to understand the issues, services and information that are most important to them. After discussion with the community a second work plan draft will be produced.

APPENDIX A: On-going County Services to the Community Service Area

King County Agency	On-going Services
Public Health – Seattle & King County	Permitting services, including those for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • septic systems • plumbing and gas piping, and • food service.
	Visiting nurse service for “high risk” pregnant mothers and new families.
	Tobacco compliance checks.
	Monthly satellite WIC (Women, Infants and Children) and MSS (Maternity Support Services) clinics.
Community and Human Services	Regional human services for eligible residents, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental health (24-hour crisis outreach; treatment services) • Substance abuse (inpatient and outpatient services) • Developmental disabilities (birth to three services, adult employment services, family supports).
	Public defense services through the Office of Public Defense for low income people charged with a jail able offense or at risk of involuntary commitment.
	Housing Repair Program services for low-to-moderate income residents (repairs, weatherization, and disability accommodations).
	Range of housing and community services, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior services (Vashon-Maury Island Senior Center) • Veterans services, including outreach services on Vashon (Senior Center) • Domestic violence and sexual assault survivor services • At-risk youth and family services (Vashon Youth and Family Services and YouthSource)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment and training services for unemployed and dislocated workers • Homeless prevention services and other assistance.
Parks Division	Maintenance of Dockton Park, Maury Island Marine Park, Island Center Forest and other natural sites on Vashon – Maury Island. Community outreach with Friends of Island Center Forest, Friends of Maury Island Marine Park and public advisory group at Maury Island Site.
Solid Waste Division	<p>Drop-off recycling and garbage disposal available at the Vashon Recycling and Transfer Station – Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm.</p> <p>Events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Vashon Wastemobile Event</u> (occurs one weekend in spring). For 2012, it will be held from Friday, April 27th through Sunday, April 29th at 17001 107th Ave SW • <u>Recycling Collection Event</u> . Will occur Fall, 2012 and residents will be notified by direct mail.
District Court	Part of the South Division – Burien Facility, Court hearings are held at the Vashon Courthouse satellite facility one Friday each month. The Vashon Facility is located at 19021 Vashon Highway SW.
Records and Licensing Division	<p>The Vashon Community Service Center is open every Tuesday, Noon to 7 p.m. Services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • marriage and pet licenses, • passport application services, • receipt of property tax payments, and • general information about the county and other county services.
DDES (Department of Development and Environmental Services)	DDES plans to increase its presence on Vashon from about one-day-per-month in 2012 to one-day-per week in 2013. The goal is to have one staff person present for one day a week to do permit intake and outreach. Additionally, field staff such as inspectors and code enforcement officers will be present as needed.
Sheriff's Office	<p>Vashon – Maury Island is part of the West precinct along with the unincorporated areas of West Hill, North Highline, and Kent/Federal Way and contract cities Burien and SeaTac.</p> <p>The Vashon Island substation offers renewals only for concealed pistol licenses every Tuesday from 2:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.</p>

Water and Land Resources Division	The Vashon-Maury Island Ground water protection committee is working to protect the groundwater by implementing a Groundwater Management Plan and Watershed Plan.
	Storm water management program.
	The Marine Mooring <i>in situ</i> water quality monitoring program has two automated water quality monitoring systems in Quartermaster Harbor that take measurements every 15-minutes for parameters of concern (such as dissolved oxygen and nitrogen).
	<p>The Public Benefit Rating System (PBRs) and Timer Land (TL) programs are incentive programs that reduce a participating owner's property tax by encouraging preservation of natural resources, like groundwater, surface water and wildlife, as well as management for healthy forests and agricultural lands.</p> <p>On Vashon there are 202 landowners and 1.362 acres participating in PBRs; 78 landowners and 795 acres in TL. King County reviews about 10% of these properties annually.</p>
Roads Services Division	On-going road maintenance, including snow and ice removal and traffic safety.
Metro Transit Division	<p>King County Metro's existing Vashon fixed route service includes on-island trips operating between the Vashon Dock and either Burton or Tahlequah (Route 118) or Dockton on Maury Island (Route 119). Weekday peak service includes 118/119 "express" trips which provide direct service between Vashon and downtown Seattle.</p>

APPENDIX B: FULL TABLE OF PROJECTS AND SERVICE CHANGES

Agency	Project or Service Change	Description	When	Purpose
<i>Economic Growth and Built Environment</i>				
Roads Services	Roads project at SW Cemetery Rd/Reall Rd WW	This project will enclose roadside ditches and construct a 5' – 6' wide asphalt paved pathway for 4,800' to the east/north and extend the existing paved pathway by 2,900' to the west of the elementary and middle school campus entrance.	Contingent on grant funding; intended to start 2013	To improve safety and access for students and teachers who walk or bike to school
Marine Division	Increased vessel capacity	The Marine Division is currently working with the Coast Guard to meet the requirements necessary for increasing the vessel capacity for its Water Taxis to 172 passengers.	Anticipated May/June 2012	Vashon route is currently leaving overloads behind at least 2- 3 times per week
	New vessel construction	Funding for two new vessels for the Vashon Island route has been secured and King County is in the preliminary planning stages for constructing them. Vessels will be larger (capacity of 200 – 250) and more reliable.	Anticipated late 2013/ early 2014	Current leased vessels are undersized, less reliable and over 20 years old
Transit	Restructuring of Metro's On-Island Service	Revisions to Vashon services may be considered consistent with the 2011-2021 Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, which includes direction to reduce cost and improve efficiency through consideration of alternative service delivery strategies.	Planning/outreach could begin Fall 2012 Service implementation would take place in late Sept 2013	To provide a more efficient and cost effective level of on-island service that continues to meet the needs of riders
Rural Econ Strategies	Explore Island-wide options for economic development	Working with the Chamber and other economic development organizations on island, the Rural Economic Strategies program with explore options to enhance economic development in the Town of Vashon, for rural neighborhood commercial centers, for home-based businesses and for agricultural and forestry operations.	Initiated during 2012 and continued in 2013	To support Vashon-Maury Island commercial businesses

<i>Environmental Sustainability</i>				
Solid Waste Division	Upgrade to residential recycling	<p>Vashon is one of the few unincorporated areas not currently included in King County service level requirements. Changes are expected to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A collection fee structure that includes recycling service as part of the basic garbage collection fee; • Provision of wheeled carts for recyclables (glass will continue to be collected separately); • Collection of materials not currently accepted by Vashon's hauler, including all rigid plastics and scrap metal. 	Target date is January 1, 2013 (to be timed with planned increase in King County disposal fees)	To increase recycling opportunities for Vashon residents
	More options at Vashon Recycling & Transfer Station	King County will initiate pilot programs to test the feasibility of expanding the materials collected at the recycling and transfer station. Targeted materials include yard waste, clean wood and scrap metal.	2nd or 3rd Quarter 2012	To increase recycling opportunities for Vashon residents and businesses.
Parks Division	Maury Island Site	<p>Activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site management/park development plan for the former gravel site • Remediation and arsenic clean-up plan with WA DOE • Extensive community outreach and involvement including establishment in a "friends' advisory group." 	2012-2013 and beyond	Required by WA Department of Energy (site is former gravel mine contaminated with arsenic from the "Tacoma shelter plume"
	Maury Island Marine Park	<p>Activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of a picnic shelter near the beach • On-going beach restoration and potential carbon offset project • Community trail connection to Dockton Park • On-going coordination with Friends of MIMP 	2012-2013 and beyond	To support strong local community interest and involvement in the park
	Dockton Park	<p>Activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beach and near-shore restoration project • Arsenic clean-up and soil removal around pay area (WA DOE project) 	2012-2013 and beyond	Salmon habitat restoration; WA DOE funding and implementing soil removal

Parks Division	Island Center Forest	<p>Activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest harvest thinning of 80 acres • Site planning for recent 40-acre acquisition • Deer hunting policy implementation • Dog off-leash pilot program • New picnic shelter 	2012-2013 and beyond	Island Center Forest is Vashon-Maury Islands' largest public open space and is managed in collaboration with the Friends of ICF
	Community Trails Plan	Trail connections between all of the major public open spaces: "town loop" link near the town center, trail link between Maury Island Marine Park and Dockton Park, and "Ferry to Ferry" trail from north to south.	2012-2013 and beyond	Many of Vashon-Maury Island's parks and open spaces have trails but no formal trails connecting key public places
	Open space acquisitions	<p>Planned acquisitions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 acres at Island Center Forest • Dockton Forest lease conversion (40-acres) • Up to 60 acres to develop trail connection between Maury Island Marine Park and Dockton Park • Conservation Easements in Judd Creek watershed 	2012-2013	Open space, habitat preservation and recreational trail opportunities
	Parks grant programs	<p>The Community Partnership Grant (CPG) and Youth Sports Facility Grant (YSFG) will support the following park enhancements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New picnic shelters at Island Forest Center and Maury Island Marine Park • Vashon Forest Stewards youth crew • New athletic fields and skate park for Vashon Parks District 	2012-2013	<p>CPG funding goes directly to local non-profit community groups</p> <p>YSFG funding goes directly to the Vashon Parks district</p>
Water and Land Resources Division	Quartermaster Harbor Nitrogen Loading Study	<p>This grant-funded study will evaluate nitrogen's role in the risk of exceeding a critical threshold during low-level dissolved oxygen events in Quarter Master Harbor.</p> <p>Sources of nitrogen will be identified and quantified, and nitrogen impacts will be modeled.</p>	Four years study started in 2009 and will be completed in 2012	Results will inform recommended policy changes for the King County Comprehensive Plan to improve nitrogen management on the island.

Water and Land Resources Division	Water resource sustainability indicators	The Vashon-Maury Island Groundwater Protection Committee is developing a set of eleven indicators to measure the status of water resources on Vashon-Maury Island.	First indicator report completed in 2012	Sustainability indicators will provide an early warning system to identify any decline in water quality of quantity and will guide preservation efforts.
	Vashon Community Plan policy recommendations	The Vashon-Maury Island Groundwater Protection Committee is proposing a set of water quality protection policy recommendations for inclusion in the Vashon Community Plan.	Policies are included in the Draft 2012 update to the King County Comp Plan	Proposed policies provide water resource management recommendations around monitoring, conserving water, managing nutrient loading and other sustainability efforts.
	Vashon park and ride	This project will add approximately 6,250 square feet of porous concrete paving (adding 27 new parking spaces) and two rain gardens for new and existing paving. Located near the Vashon Highway SW and SW 204 th Street intersection.	Construction Summer of 2012	Funded by Department of Ecology Stormwater Low Impact Development Grant
	Dockton Heights shoreline restoration	This project will enhance shoreline habitat at the Dockton Natural Area by removing bulkhead, excavating fill and enhancing habitat features.	Construction 2013	Salmon recovery and restoration
	WRIA 9 Marine shoreline monitoring and compliance project	Grant funding will be used to perform marine shoreline habitat conditions monitoring around the islands for the next two summers. Monitoring will also focus on enforcement and ensuring the appropriate permits for changes.	2012 and 2013	The project will help King County track implementation of the Shoreline Master Plan, provide monitoring data for salmon recovery, and support salmon recovery goals, and provide data for the Puget Sound Partnership.

	Habitat conservation and preservation	<p>The Water and Land Resources division helps preserve priority habitat parcels through fee acquisition or the purchase of conversation easements.</p> <p>The Water and Land Resources division provides for small scale restoration projects at a variety of sites.</p>	On-going	Salmon recovery and habitat preservation
	Island Center Forest Stewardship - thinning and harvest	King County will do variable density thinning of young Douglas fir trees and harvesting of mature red alder trees as recommended in the Island Forest Site Management Guidelines.	Invitation to bid issued March 2012	Improve forest health
<i>Health and Human Potential</i>				
Public Health – Seattle King County	Marine Recovery Area	Public Health Seattle-King County has designated a Marine Recovery Area (MRA) on portions of the Vashon-Maury Island shoreline adjoining “prohibited” or “unclassified” shellfish harvest areas. The MRA designation requires that property owners have their on-site sewage system inspected annually, and repaired or replaced if needed by July 1, 2012.	July, 2012 and on	Inadequate or failing septic systems contribute fecal coliform bacteria, nitrogen and other contaminants leading to shellfish harvest closures.
Housing and Community Development	Sunflower Community Land Trust – 95th Place SW and Bank Road	King County and the State of Washington assisted Vashon Household to purchase property for the purpose of developing affordable housing on Vashon. King County provided additional funds to the agency to improve the road to the site.	Land purchased in 2002 with federal funds but project has been delayed	Sunflower was designed to be a Land Trust sweat equity project (up to 14 home ownership opportunities) but the poor economy has meant less interest than anticipated.
<i>Public Engagement</i>				
Rural Economic Strategies	Unincorporated Area Public Engagement program	King County’s new public engagement program for unincorporated residents provides for a primary point of contact, work program, interdepartmental team, and website.	<p>Pilot project for Vashon Jan – Mar, 2012</p> <p>Implementation remainder of 2012</p>	To implement new public outreach program

Rural Economic Strategies	Studio Storefront Project	A collaborative project between the Joint Historic Preservation program, Rural Economic Strategies and the University of Washington to work with the Town of Vashon to develop a theme and look for the town. Includes a low interest loan program for buildings interested in implementing recommendations.	Spring of 2012, low interest loan program rest of 2012	To provide economic enhancement and façade improvements
Water and Land Resources Division	Forest Stewardship Class	This 10 session class is designed to help forest landowners develop forest stewardship plans which meet their own unique ownership objectives.	2012	The class has been popular in the past and is supported and promoted by VMILT, Vashon Audubon, and Vashon Forest Stewards.